cies in the posts of Presiding officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunals;

(iii) Holding of Lok Adalts, where possible.

[*Translation*]

Availability of Coal

*811. SHRI SUKIDEO PASWAN: (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the possible availability of coal of grades A to D (high quality) in the country;

(b) if so, the scheme formulated by the Government for increasing the production of such types of coal;

(c) the total quantity of reserves of such coal found in the Country by December, 1991;

(d) the target fixed for the year 1991—92 for the production of this coal; and

(e) the total quantity of coal imported during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). The Geological Survey of India have estimated a total reserve of 42.41 billion tonnes of high quality coals of 'A' to 'D' grades within a depth of 1200 metres in different coal fields in the country. During the 8th plan period, in addition to steps being taken to encrease coal production in general, emphasis is also being laid to produce good quality coals from underground as well as open cast mines. Further, a dedicated programme to ensure supply of good quality washed coking coal to the steel plants has also taken up besides various steps being taken to improve quality of non-coking coal being supplied to power houses and other miscellaneous consumers. The total production of superior grades of non-coking coal ('A' to 'D') is expected to increase to about 111 million tonnes at the end of the 8th plan period as compared to the present level of 92 million tonnes.

(e). The total quantity of coal and coke imported during the period 1990-91 was 5.996 million tonnes.

[*English*]

Import Duty on finished goods

*813. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of the steep reduction in the import duty of finished products the Indian industries find it difficult to compete in the domestic market against the imported finished goods;

(b) whether the Government propose to reduce the import duty of the raw materials so that Indian Industries are able to compete both in the domestic and international markets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) (a) In general, because of the adjustment in the exchange rate of the Indian rupee and the restrictions placed on import of certain goods in the Export and Import Policy, 1992-1997, there has been no adverse impact on the cooperativeness of Indian industry due to the reduction in import duties on finished products.

(b) and (c). It is a continuous exercise on the part of the Government to remove distortions, if any, in the customs tariff